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Title : Need to provide Central assistance to the Government of West Bengal for providing relief to the people affected by heavy rains in southern part of West Bengal, especially Midnapore (East and West).

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (MIDNAPORE): During heavy rains in last October, southern part of West Bengal, especially Midnapore Purva (East) and Midnapore Pachim (West) districts are the worst affected. A large part of those districts are facing serious problem due to damage of total paddy crops, roads and streets, dams and river embankments. Thousands of houses have been fully damaged and lakhs have been damaged partly. School buildings and hospitals are also damaged. Acute problem of drinking water persists there. Even till today a large part remains submerged and water logged. The State Government of West Bengal and the local bodies have promptly responded and provided relief to the affected people. West Bengal sanctioned Rs.100 crore reconstruction work. But that is inadequate to address the problem. The State Government has sought necessary Central financial assistance in this regard.

I urge upon the Union Government to respond it promptly and render necessary assistance to the State Government for reconstruction work at the flood affected area.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. K. Dhanaraju − Not present.